IN THE CONTED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

KIMURA et al.

Atty. Ref.: 427-44

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Serial No. 09/890.160

Group: 1761

Filed: July 27, 2001

Examiner

SOFT CANDY AND ITS PRODUCTION METHOD

March 19, 2002

sistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Attention is invited to the attached copy of an International Search Report in the underlying PCT application and a copy of each document cited in it together with a completed Form PTO-1449. The US counterpart of EP 676147 is included.

Official citation and consideration of all the attached documents is requested. Please return to the undersigned a copy of the attached PTO-1449 with the examiner's initials in the left column [MPEP §609] with the next communication.

Also attached, for the examiners information, is a copy of the PCT application published February 7, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

Bv:

Arthur R/Crawford Reg. No. 25,327

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Examiner. Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609, Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to application. Form PTO-FB-A820 (Also PTO-1449)